



August 2026



# The Lucky Bag

**RICHMOND, VA COUNCIL NAVY LEAGUE OF THE UNITED STATES**

## Military Appreciation Night at CarMax Park



Have you been out to see the Richmond Flying Squirrels at the new CarMax Park on N. Arthur Ashe Blvd? If not, here's your chance!

Join the Richmond Council Navy League on **Thursday, September 10, 2026**, for **Military Appreciation Night**, as the Flying Squirrels face off against the Chesapeake Bay Sox. The game starts at **7:05 PM**, and we've reserved **50 seats in Section 118** for just **\$10.00 each** (parking and food not included).

Payments may be made through PayPal, utilizing the Richmond Navy League Website ([www.navyleague-richmond.com](http://www.navyleague-richmond.com)). Under the **ACTIVITIES & EVENTS SECTION (Pay Fees Now)** enter the amount of your purchase. **Be sure to include your email address in the Payment Section so your ticket can be emailed to you.** You can also mail a check along with the reservation form to the Navy League office.

**All payments and reservations must be received by Thursday, August 27, 2026. No refunds.**

Remember to include your email address on the registration form as **your tickets will be emailed directly to you.**



### Reminders

**Bag Policy:** The stadium enforces a clear bag rule, not exceeding 16" x 16" x 8". Non-clear bags are strictly limited to small hand-held clutches 7" x 5" or smaller. Medical bags and diaper bags are permitted, but are subject to inspection.

**Outside Food & Beverage:** Not allowed, however, you are permitted to bring one empty, reusable water bottle to use at free hydration stations. 🚰

### Reservation Deadline: Thursday, August 27, 2026

**\*\*Refund Policy 2026:** Cancellations will be accepted & checks returned UP TO and INCLUDING the "deadline date."

### RESERVATIONS for Richmond Flying Squirrels Game – Thursday, 10 September 2026

#### Military Appreciation Night

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ email: \_\_\_\_\_

Cost: \$ 10.00 per person      Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_      Make check payable (and mail) to:

Richmond Council NLUS    P.O. Box 11201    Richmond, VA 23230 / Tel #: (804) 355-7557

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Vaughan F. Dize



Greetings Fellow Richmond Council Navy League Members and Friends.

While July was a slow, hot month, we were happy to finally get some rain.

Sadly, we had two Navy League Members pass away this month: Michael Ratcliff Anderson and Susan Hassell (Wife of Tom Hassell, RCNL Judge Advocate and six-time Past RCNL President).

Your Richmond Council has two big events scheduled for September:

- **September 10<sup>th</sup>:** Military Appreciation Night at the new CarMax Ball Park. The Flying Squirrels play the Chesapeake Bay Sox in their last home game of the season. Richmond Council Navy League members and guests will be attending, seated in Row 118. Come and join in the fun. It should be an exciting game!

### *The Lucky Bag* Vol 69 Issue 8

Published by Richmond, Virginia Council Navy League of the U.S. Mailing address: P.O. Box 11201, Richmond, VA 23230.

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*The Lucky Bag* is published monthly, except Jan. & Feb. Issues which are combined.

- **September 16<sup>th</sup>:** Richmond Council's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing, which is our biggest annual fundraiser. We hope to see you at The Hollows for this important fun outing!!

Also, the James M. Slay Detachment of the Marine Corps League is looking for a Navy representative for their Color Guard. If you are interested, contact our office at (804) 355-7557 and we will get in touch with Joe Kelleher, USMC.

### Events in Navy History August

- August 4, 1790: Congress creates U.S. Revenue Marine Service, later the Revenue Cutter Service, then the U.S. Coast Guard

- August 4, 1947: Medical Service Corps established

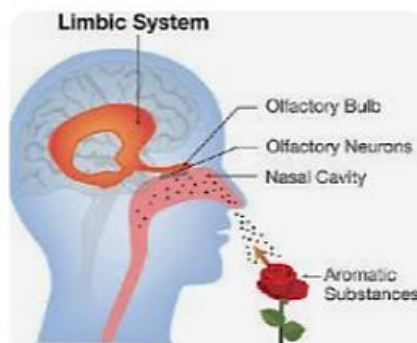
- August 5, 1864: Battle of Mobile Bay: RADM David Farragut orders, "*Damn the torpedoes, full speed ahead!*"

- August 22, 1912: Navy Dental Corps established

Until next month, may you have fair winds and following seas! ✍

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Chaplain John A. Harler, M.D.



### MEMORY'S CONNECTION WITH SMELLS

When Jane, my wife-to-be, and I fell in love, it was on our second date at a picnic. My mother provided the fried chicken. I later learned that Jane's favorite childhood memories were the Sunday dinners at her grandparents' home. She loved the aroma of the chicken frying as she entered the home. It wasn't until I was in medical school that I learned that the Olfactory Nerve is hardwired to the brain's Limbic System, where memory is stored. It was then that I realized my mother's fried chicken had set the stage for us to fall in love at second sight!

Scripture does not explicitly detail the biological link between the brain's olfactory system and memory. Still, it frequently uses the sense of smell as a powerful spiritual metaphor for memory, recognition, and emotional connection.

When Noah built an altar after the flood, the "Lord smelled the pleasing aroma" (Genesis 8:20). The smoke of the sacrifices stirred remembrance of God's covenant and appeased His wrath, which parallels how a scent can emotionally anchor us to a specific moment or promise.

God intentionally designed the Old Testament worship rituals to engage the human senses, creating permanent mental connections through distinct aromas. In Exodus 30:34-38, God gives Moses a highly specific recipe for a sacred incense compound. It was strictly forbidden to make this blend for personal use. Because this scent was encountered only inside the Tabernacle, it instantly triggered a single memory: the awe-inspiring presence of God. Similarly, the unique blend of myrrh, sweet cinnamon, cane, cassia, and olive oil was used exclusively to consecrate priests and holy items. It functioned as an olfactory boundary marker, instantly reminding the community of what was set apart for divine purposes.

Finally, in John 21:15-19, Jesus forgives Peter and restores him to leadership after Peter's earlier thrice denial (by a charcoal fire). Later, by a charcoal fire where Jesus is cooking fish on the shore of the Sea of Galilee, He asks Peter, "Do you love me?" three times—matching Peter's thrice denials—Jesus offers him the chance to reaffirm his devotion before giving him the commission to "feed my sheep." Certainly, the aroma of the charcoal fire triggered Peter's memory of his three denials of Jesus.

Some of us may have had a similar experience of a Divine moment with God amid a beautiful aroma. This may allow us to enjoy the feeling of that holy moment when we are within the scent of that aroma again. So, let us be aware of the power of aromas when in the presence of God, creating good memories and unique personal experiences that connect us with God. ✍

## Council's 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Outing - Wed., September 16, 2026

### Four Players. One Mission, Supporting Our Nation's Sea Services



We are excited to gather once again at the Hollows Golf Club, located at 14501 Greenwood Church Road, Montpelier, VA, for an enjoyable day of golf and reconnecting with friends.

This year's tournament will follow the Captain's Choice, Best Ball format. Because participation is limited to 124 players, we encourage you to reserve your spot early, so you don't miss out.

• Registration 10:30 AM • Lunch: 11:00 AM (Pork BBQ catered lunch) • Tee Off: 12:30 PM

As our largest fundraising event of the year, the outing relies heavily on the generosity of sponsors from our local business community. Our goal for 2026 is to raise **\$10,000** to continue supporting the crews of our Council's **four adopted ships**, the **U.S. Marine Corps**, the **AMERICA Division Sea Cadets**, our **Deployment Dollar Program**, and **nine JROTC High School Programs** throughout Richmond and the surrounding area.

In previous years, Board Members have carried the responsibility of securing contributions. However, given today's challenging economic climate, it is unlikely they can meet this year's goal alone. We are asking **all Navy League members to reach out to their employers, local businesses, and stores they frequent to help support the tournament through cash donations or prize contributions.**

We also encourage you to invite your friends and family to sign up to play golf. Get your foursomes together for a fun day of golf. The cost per player is \$95.00 which includes a green fee, cart, lunch, snacks, soft drinks, and adult refreshments served by courtesy carts.

#### Sponsor Information

Sponsors who contribute **\$100.00** will be recognized with a sign displayed on a hole, along with their business name and logo. Sponsors who contribute **\$300.00 or more** will not only get a sign, but will also have their business recognized for one full year in our monthly newsletter, *The Lucky Bag*, where their business will appear as a sponsor for one full year. *The Lucky Bag* currently reaches approximately **185 readers each month.**

Donations can be made via check or PayPal. Access PayPal through our Navy League website at [www.navyleague-richmond.com](http://www.navyleague-richmond.com) and utilize the "Donation" section to record the amount of the donation.

#### Prize Information

Mulligans will be available for purchase at **\$5 each** or **two for \$9**. Using a Mulligan allows players to improve their score and increase their chances of winning a door prize. Team awards will be presented for **1st, 2nd, and 3rd place**, and individual prizes will be given for **Closest to the Pin** on all Par 3 holes and **Longest Drive** on a designated Par 5. **Please note, the 50/50 raffle will be CASH ONLY.**

Your participation and outreach make a real difference. Let's come together to make this year's outing our most successful yet.

The Golf Brochure for registering your team is located on the back pages of this issue. Hope to see you there! 🏌️

### Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 213 – Blacklions

On July 28, 2026, RCNL Liaison, Alan Clemmons, traveled to Naval Air Station Oceana to present Strike Fighter Squadron 213 – Blacklions, their Sailor of the Year Award, as well as present them a \$1,000.00 MWR (Morale, Welfare and Recreation) Donation Check.



Pictured from L to R: CDR Kevin Federoff, Commanding Officer; Alan Clemmons, RCNL Liaison; and CDR Adam Jackson, Executive Officer



Alan Clemmons presented Allen Poe with the Sailor of the Year Award.



Alan Clemmons presented a \$1,000.00 MWR Donation check to the Blacklions VFA – 213 Squadron.

# Advocacy Update

In our June 2026 *Lucky Bag*, we highlighted the talking points of the Navy League of the U.S.'s Fly-In 2026 visitations with Congresspeople and Senators. The purpose of this article is to dig a bit deeper into three of those pieces of proposed legislation.

The Senate's S.1541 and the House of Representative's HR.3151 are both called the "SHIPS for America Act of 2025, and they are almost identical. Both are currently in committee, with hopes to advance to full consideration in their respective houses. Both bills are highly bipartisan.

The overall intent of both bills is to revitalize the U.S. maritime industry (both military and Merchant Marine) by expanding the production of U.S.-flagged fleets and by addressing shipbuilder shortages. Both bills also aim to strengthen the maritime workforce, not only in a crewing capacity, but also in attracting the craftsmen skills required in shipbuilding, like welders, pipe fitters, hull technicians, and many others.

The United States is woefully behind in its shipbuilding capabilities. The U.S. has 154 private shipyards and 4 Navy shipyards capable of building ships from the keel to the superstructure. Many of these are antiquated and none are equipped to build the highly prized Roll-On-Roll-Off (RORO) ships useful to commercial maritime trade. At present, we rely heavily on the shipbuilding technology and economy of nations like South Korea to meet our needs.

## The Jones Act of 1920 requires that:

- Ships carrying cargo between U.S. ports (ex: NY to Norfolk), must be built in the U.S.
- They must be owned by U.S. citizens with at least 75% of voting ownership and control
- Ships must fly the U.S. flag and comply with federal safety inspections
- And the crews must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents; the captain and chief engineer must be U.S. citizens.

While protectively well-intended, these requirements increase shipbuilding costs exponentially, as do the cost of U.S. steel, and other regulations.

S. 1541 also includes the establishment of a Maritime Security Trust Fund to help defray some (but not all) of the cost associated with implementing these bills.

The Maritime Security Trust Fund will be discussed in a separate article.

S. 1536 (Building Ships in America Act of 2025) is very infrastructure-focused on maritime workforces, ports, and shipyards.

The Navy League of the U.S. supports the passage of these key pieces of legislation and urges all Navy League members to express their opinions to their Congresspeople and Senators. This is most easily done through the Navy League of the U.S.'s website on the Legislative Affairs tab.

The Richmond Council of the Navy League of the U.S. has yet to weigh-in on these specific bills, but they will be reviewed by our Advocacy Taskforce in July to determine our advocacy position. Meanwhile, we invite comments from our members. ✍

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## We Were Lost at Sea

By: Pat Robson, RCNL Director

We were lost at sea. COMLANTFLT (Commander-in-Chief, Atlantic Fleet) had no idea where we were. They had not received a MOVREP (Movement Report) from us in three days and the situation had become critical. The TV stations in Norfolk found out and they gave our wives and families ample updates for hours of worry. Sweat pumps were running at full speed.

We knew exactly where we were. We were steaming independently hundreds of miles south of the Azore Islands in the most beautiful weather we had seen in weeks. The skies were cloudlessly blue. The days were in their 70's with no humidity. The wave crests were barely a foot high, and the ocean was like glass. While the east coast of the U.S. was dealing with a big hurricane, we were in a weather Nirvana.

Our problem was bad wave propagation, which had nothing to do with ocean waves. Sometimes the weather conditions can be TOO good. Perfect weather can open the ionosphere to let HF (high frequency) radio waves "leak" through into outer space instead of bouncing back to earth. We could receive message-traffic perfectly, but we could not send any, including our position reports as required every 12 hours. In 1971, only the "important" ships had SATCOM (satellite communications). We didn't.

If the Navy cannot find one of its ships, received a FLASH message (highest urgency) via teletype that a search plane

would be dispatched from the Azores within an hour. Now OUR officers were in a panic.

I'll continue the "lost at sea" story in a minute, but it's time for the story within the story.

This opportunity to harass a Marine was just too good to ignore. We recruited "Private Pyle" to watch for the search plane and to guide it to our ship. He was "stationed" on the forecastle (bow) with a PRC-77 VHF radio, a pair of binoculars, and a pair of semaphore flags to make him more visible (to us) from a distance. When he wasn't yelling into his handset, he waved the flags. Dutifully, he scanned the skies. On the fantail (stern) we had two of our Sailors with a second PRC-77. One was the "pilot" and the other was the plane's "engine," who made a growling noise like a plane's engine while the "pilot" was talking to Private Pyle. "USS Lorain County, we are searching for you. Advise your position," the pilot broadcast. "We're over here... over here," Private Pyle screamed frantically into his handset as he waved his flags wildly, hoping to attract a plane he couldn't see. The dialogue continued this way for about 15 minutes, as several of us enjoyed the comedy from the bridge wings. Finally, the "pilot" said, "USS Lorain County, we cannot locate you. We will discontinue our search and report you as lost at sea." By this time, Private Pyle was in tears and exhausted from jumping up and down waving his arms. We finally let him in on the joke. Boredom, plus opportunity, equals entertainment.

Back to the main story. When HF fails, try LF (low frequency) and send the message by CW (continuous wave, aka, Morse Code). Our Lead Radioman sent the MOVREP with CW. It was received by COMLANTFLT, the search plane was cancelled, and the emergency was over.

After we had missed our first MOVREP, our Lead Radioman suggested the LF-CW solution, but it was rejected by our CO and XO as being overkill. They decided to wait until our situation became an embarrassment. RM1 Crumbacker saved the day.

About 1,000 miles from the U.S., our beautiful weather collided with the hurricane. To our south were 30-foot seas. To our north there were 40-foot seas. The "valley" between them had 20-foot seas and that was the route we took. It was a rough ride, (especially in a rolling LST), but we "slipped" through safely, debarked our Marines (including Private Pyle) in Morehead City, NC, and returned to our relieved families in Little Creek. Early liberty! ✍

## USNS Kanawha Receives Presidential Unit Citation Award for Combat Logistics Force Support



Family and friends gathered on the pier at Naval Station Norfolk on May 16, 2026, to welcome home the crew of the USNS Kanawha (T-AO 196). The fleet replenishment oiler and its 92 civil service mariners returned after a 204-day deployment, which included 156 days actively at sea. Photo credit: UNS Military Sealift Command | LaShawn Sykes.

July 17, 2026 / Navy Public Affairs

In a historic milestone for U.S. Navy Military Sealift Command's Combat Logistics Force, fleet replenishment oiler **USNS Kanawha (T-AO 196)** was awarded the **Presidential Unit Citation** during an award ceremony at Naval Station Norfolk, July 17, 2026.

The rare honor recognizes the ship's extraordinary logistics support to the **USS Gerald R. Ford Carrier Strike Group** during Operation Epic Fury.

The crew of dry cargo and ordnance vessel **USNS William McLean (T-AKE 12)** also provided critical logistics support to the strike group and was also awarded the PUC for their efforts. The crew will be formally recognized for their accomplishments in an upcoming ceremony.

*"By serving as a vital lifeline in contested waters, the civil service mariners of Kanawha ensured the strike group remained fueled, armed, and ready for combat,"* said Adm. Karl Thomas, commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, who presided over the award ceremony.

*"By earning the first of two Presidential Unit Citations in Military Sealift Command's 77-year history, these civilian mariners didn't just support the fleet; they made history. Their courage, resilience, and unwavering dedication demonstrate what we already know: 'our civilian mariners are frontline warriors.'"*

Thomas went on to praise the crew's historic achievement, stating, *"They have earned the deepest respect of the entire United States Navy."*

Rear Adm. Benjamin Nicholson, com-

mander, Military Sealift Command, echoed these sentiments, highlighting the extraordinary nature of Kanawha's contributions.

*"This team represents the best of our Civil Service Mariner force. Their work, this brave performance, is the reason why MSC's Combat Logistics Force has maintained its more than 77-year reputation as the logistics line that sustains the fight at sea. They play a vital role in our Navy's ability to maintain its forward presence. This is a massively well-earned achievement, congratulations to USNS Kanawha and her crew for etching their name in our nation's history."*

*"Our success on this mission was a direct result of the relentless dedication of our crew and the seamless interoperability we built with the strike group,"* said **Kanawha's** former Chief Mate Anthony Canseco. *"[This award] is a testament to the sacrifice and professionalism of every single Kanawha crew member."*

**In addition to the unit award**, 20 individual accolades were presented to crew members for their standout bravery, during the deployment, including **three Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Medals**: Chief Mate Anthony Canseco, Chief Engineer Abel Reyes, and Ship Master, Captain Brian Roney; **10 Civilian Service Commendation Medals**: First Assistant Engineer Alexander Bacalso, Second Assistant Engineer Jose DeBarros, Junior Supply Officer Ashly Farmer, Ships Communication Officer Anthony Felton, Cargo Bosun James Fitzpatrick, Second Assistant Engineer Brian Franklin, Bosun Theo Niang, Operations Chief

Nicholas Petrone, Supply Officer Cierra Reed, and Chief Radio Electronics Technician Malik Taylor; **and seven Civilian Service Achievement Medals**: Able Seaman Melanie Ausmer, Supply Utilityman Simone Cassells, Ordinary Seaman Jason Chambers, Supply Utilityman Kaylin Hayes, Electronic Technician Jayryan Imbuido, Engine Utility Ardrian Lincoln, and Ordinary Seaman Jose Yanez.

Individual crew members reflected on the significance of the award, the sacrifices made, and what the recognition means for the morale and legacy of MSC mariners.

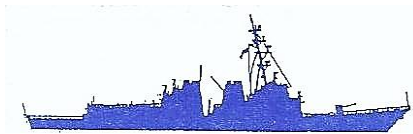
*"Receiving this recognition lets the Supply Department know that the hard work put into underway replenishments, in-port replenishments, fuel movements, and office duties does not go unnoticed,"* said Cierra Reed, supply officer. *"The supply department plays a major part in all operations and continues to perform great in the fleet. Being recognized shows just that, while also inspiring and motivating others."*

*"When our deployment was unexpectedly extended in support of Operation Epic Fury, the sacrifice became very personal,"* Canseco said. *"Many mariners, including myself, voluntarily delayed our scheduled reliefs, knowing it meant more time away from our families. We did so because we understood the stakes. U.S. warships depended on us to keep them fueled, supplied, and ready to fight."* ✍️

(Article from *Seapower Weekly* / July 23, 2026, Issue)

## ADOPTED SHIPS UPDATE

(these reports may be edited to fit the space available)



### USS Gravely (DDG-107)

CO: LCDR James Showanes

XO: Vacant / Transitioning

CMC: CMDCM LeDezman Johnson

Alan Clemmons, Liaison

Courtney Mustin, Ass't Liaison

LCDR James Showanes relieved CDR Gregory J. Piorun, Jr. at the Change of Command Ceremony at Naval Station Norfolk on June 29, 2026. ✍



### USS Carter Hall (LSD-50)

CO: CDR Brittany N. Lynn

XO: CDR Phillip E. Wise

CMC: CMDCM Chelsea L. Turner

Pat Robson, Liaison

Dennis Biggs, Assistant Liaison

On July 10, 2026, three Sailors got their ESWS (Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist) Pin, which show-offs that the Sailor has mastered the complex operations and knowledge of running a warship. These Sailors are: CTT2 Lawson, HT2 Larson, and BM2 Tamdem. ✍

Very Respectfully,  
ENS Sabu, Marina E. ENS, USN



### USCGC Northland (WMEC-904)

CO: CDR Jonathan M. Wolstenholme

XO: LCDR Charles Chavtur

CSEL: MKC Ethan Stanford

Vaughan Dize, Liaison

While we remain moored at Base Portsmouth, the crew is working tirelessly to build momentum toward becoming a fully functional, mission-ready cutter as we prepare for our upcoming patrol in

early 2027. Projects such as our Main Diesel Engine replacement continue, and efforts to begin revamping the flight deck are our biggest examples of the work we are accomplishing to get our ship underway. With fresh faces and new leadership and equipment, the **Northland** crew remains fully committed to excellence.

The highlight of this month was our Change of Command ceremony. We bid a fond farewell to CDR Gismervik, celebrating his service and thanking him for his outstanding leadership and steadfast dedication. His impact on our crew was forever lasting. Simultaneously, we proudly welcomed CDR Wolstenholme as the new Commanding Officer of **USCGC Northland**, and we look forward to the cutter's next chapter under his guidance.

In addition to the change in command, transfer season is upon us, and we said goodbye to several dedicated crew members who have departed for their next duty stations, thanking them for their hard work and wishing them the best in their future endeavors, while simultaneously welcoming many new shipmates aboard.

We also took time this month to recognize the exceptional efforts of our crew. Multiple personnel advanced in rank, demonstrating their hard work and efforts in getting our ship underway. We recognized several crew members with awards to honor the outstanding achievements and day-to-day excellence of our team members prior to their departure. As we move forward into the summer with fresh faces and new leadership, the **Northland** crew remains ready and committed to excellence. The Commanding Officer and crew thank you for the steadfast support that enables their service and wish all fair winds and following seas! ✍

Very Respectfully,  
Jack M. Spinnato, PAO



### USCGC Spencer (WMEC-905)

CO: CDR Steven M. Volk

XO: LCDR Harrison Carter

CSEL: MKC Andrew Chavez

Thomas A. Jennings, Liaison

Thomas T. Hassell, Jr., Ass't Liaison

The following reports are from **USCGC Spencer's Scuttlebutt** Newsletter, posted while deployed.

**Issue 02 (week of July 13<sup>th</sup>)** has been

a change of pace in our patrol. We addressed several issues that arose; the crew pulled together to get them resolved. We also detoured slightly for a stop in Key West for necessary supplies and a quick break.

We had the opportunity to recognize MK2 Rowe with a Cutterman Ceremony, marking a significant milestone in sea service and commitment to our profession.



**Sailor receives the Cutterman Insignia during the Cutterman Ceremony.**

The Cutterman Insignia identifies a sailor with more than five years served at sea on multiple ships. It represents a huge commitment to our heritage and traditions. We later said goodbye to MK2 for his next duty assignment.

Our time in Key West allowed shipmates to relax, reconnect with friends, and reset away from the ship. We look forward to fair winds and the challenges of life at sea as our deployment continues.

**Issue 03 (week of July 21<sup>st</sup>)** has been a big push on qualifications and drills as we prepare for our upcoming evaluation. The crew has put in solid work improving proficiency and reinforcing the fundamentals, in addition, a number of new qualifications amongst the crew. These efforts strengthen our readiness and reflect the standards we set for ourselves aboard **Spencer**.

We also made time for a brief recharge following a sustain patch of rough weather. A friendly video game competition saw the Engineer Officer come away with the top spot, and a relaxing spa night provided a welcome break from life at sea. We continue to push through the wanning time of this deployment and are preparing for extensive repairs at home. ✍

Valor, Honor, & Tradition  
CO CDR Steven M. Volk

## U.S. Coast Guard Celebrates 236<sup>th</sup> Birthday in 2026. Founded August 4, 1790.

One of the U.S. Coast Guard's traditions is the Cutterman Ceremony. Below is a general explanation of this event. (note: ceremony may be modified accordingly).

### The Cutterman Ceremony

This U.S. Coast Guard tradition celebrates members who earn their temporary or permanent qualifications as professional seagoing mariners. The event features the ship's bell, saltwater immersion of the pins, and pinning by senior crew.

#### Ceremony Traditions and Steps

- **The Ship's Bell:** The ship's bell is filled with seawater, symbolizing a direct tie to the ocean.
- **Drawing the Insignia:** The candidate reaches into the saltwater-filled bell to retrieve their new badge, representing the cumulative sea time and support of fellow cuttermen.
- **The Pinning:** Senior permanent cuttermen pin the gold (officer) or silver oxide (enlisted) badge onto the member's uniform, officially welcoming them into the seagoing community.

#### Examples of Coast Guard Insignia



Silver Oxide Insignia - Enlisted



Gold Insignia - Officer

#### Qualification Milestones

- **Temporary Insignia:** Earned after six months of sea time, completing watch station qualifications, passing a board exam, and receiving a commanding officer's recommendation.
- **Permanent Insignia:** Awarded after completing five cumulative years of sea duty service aboard Coast Guard cutters and passing an advanced board.

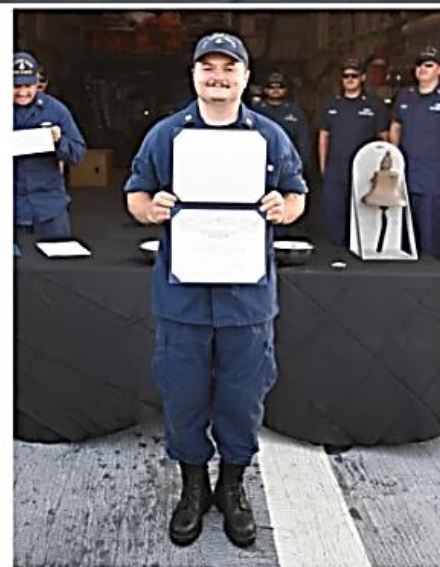
(Source: US C.G. Facebook). 📷

## USCGC *Spencer's* Cutterman Ceremony While Deployed

The following pictures were included in their *Scuttlebutt* Newsletter for the week of July 13<sup>th</sup> (Issue 02).

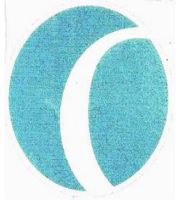


## Cutterman Ceremony



## Thank You Sponsors!

Your Financial contribution to the Richmond Navy League provides Funds for programs supporting those serving in the United States Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Council's Youth Programs; The Naval Sea Cadet Corps and the Local Navy and Marine JROTC Units.



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PHOTOGRAPHY STUDIO



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A banner for Herndon Law P.C. featuring a background of an American flag and a gavel. The text includes the firm's name, tagline "Protecting what matters.", and contact information.

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|                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                 |

### U.S. Marine Corps League Heilman Scholarship Award Recipient

The purpose of the Sergeant Bruce Heilman Scholarship is to provide financial support to one outstanding high school senior, who is a cadet in one of the four Marine Corps JROTC units in the Richmond area, who intends to pursue higher education at a "Qualifying Institution." Qualifying Institutions are defined as vocational schools, technical schools, community colleges, junior colleges, and four-year colleges.

Cadet Makenzie (Kenzie) was one of the recipients of this award. Kenzie was a cadet in the Hermitage H.S. MCROTC program for her junior and senior years. She rose to the rank of sergeant and commanded the MOTO and Raiders team. She was also selected as the most athletic cadet two years in a row.

Kenzie excelled in sports as a two-sport athlete at Hermitage, 12 years as a gymnast and co-captain of the school's dance team.

Kenzie deeply appreciated the leadership and guidance she received from Master Gunnery Sergeant Bartley and First Sergeant James. Kenzie is very grateful for the leadership and personal skills she acquired while a JROTC Cadet, as she heads to her freshman year at the University of North Carolina.



**RICHMOND, VIRGINIA COUNCIL  
NAVY LEAGUE OF THE U.S.  
P.O. BOX 11201  
RICHMOND, VA 23230**

**OFFICE: (804) 355-7557 FAX: (804) 355-8788  
EMAIL: [navyleaguerichmond@comcast.net](mailto:navyleaguerichmond@comcast.net)  
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*Thanks for jumping on board !!!*

## **2026 ANCHOR CLUB MISSION:**

**YOUR DONATION OF \$100 (OR MORE) PROVIDES FUNDS FOR THE SUPPORT OF OUR SEA SERVICES AND THEIR RELATED YOUTH PROGRAMS.**

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**The following names are listed from donations made in memory on their behalf.**

Henry E. Allen, Jr., USAAC,  
USAF, USN  
Jesse M. Gallegos, USA  
Rosaria C. Gallegos

Edward S. Gibbons, USMC  
CAPT C. Gilchrist, USN  
George Kalanges, USN

Earl A. McKnight, USN  
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Alan C. Palmer, UK, Royal Navy  
Jacqueline E. Willey  
Steve Zembroski, USN



**SUPPORT  
OUR  
MILITARY**

*The Lucky Bag*

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## DIRECTIONS



**FROM D. C.:** Take I-95 South to Rt. 54 West (Ashland). Go approximately 9 miles and take a left on Rt. 671 (Scotchtown Rd.). Go approximately 2.5 miles and take a left on Rt. 657 (Greenwood Church Rd.). Bear left at fork. Club House is on the right.

**FROM I-95 / ASHLAND:** Take highway 54 west approximately 9 miles. Turn left on Route 671 (Scotchtown Rd.). Go approximately 2.5 miles and turn left on Route 657 (Greenwood Church Rd.). Bear left at fork. Clubhouse is on the right.

**FROM RICHMOND:** Take Staples Mill Rd. (Route 33) West or take I-295 to Rt. 33 West. Go approximately 5 miles past I-295 and turn right on Rt. 670 (Farrington Rd.). Go approximately 2 miles to stop sign and take a left on Rt. 657 (Greenwood Church Rd.). Clubhouse is on the left in 1 mile.

**FROM CHARLOTTEVILLE:** Take I-64 East to the 288/Broad St. East exit. Go 1/10 mile to I-64 West, then 7/10 mile on I-64 West to the Rt. 623 (Rockville) exit. Go north on 623 to Route 33 (2nd stop light) and turn left. Go approximately 1 mile and turn right on Rt. 670 (Farrington Rd.). Go approximately 2 miles to stop sign and turn left on Rt. 657 (Greenwood Church Rd.). Clubhouse is on the left in 1 mile.

*Thank you for your continued Participation and Support*

Through your support of this golf outing, you provide the necessary funds for the Richmond Navy League to sponsor the following programs:

SEA CADET CORPS

LOCAL JROTC UNITS

CARE PACKAGES TO FORWARD-DEPLOYED MILITARY UNITS

DEPLOYMENT DOLLARS

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**RICHMOND COUNCIL NAVY LEAGUE**

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# 37th ANNUAL RICHMOND NAVY LEAGUE



# GOLF OUTING

**SEPT. 16, 2026**

THE HOLLOWES GOLF CLUB  
MONTPELIER, VA

The Richmond Council NLUS will hold its premier fundraiser, the Annual Golf Outing at the Hollows Golf Club near Montpelier, Virginia on **September 16, 2026**. As the number of players will be limited to 124 for this popular event, you should make your reservation early to ensure you do not miss out.

TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

WHEN: Wed. September 16, 2026  
WHERE: The Hollows Golf Club  
14501 Greenwood Church Rd.  
Montpelier, VA 23192  
FORMAT: Captain's Choice, Best Ball  
ENTRY FEE: \$95.00 per golfer  
10:30 AM - Registration  
11:00 AM - Lunch  
12:00 PM - **Raffle Drawings**  
12:30 PM - Tee-Off

PRIZE INFORMATION

Mulligans will be sold for \$5.00 each or two for \$9.00. With a Mulligan you can reduce your score and **a chance to win raffle prizes**.  
**Team Prizes.** First, second and third place team prizes will be awarded.  
**Individual Prizes** will be awarded for:  
Closest to the pin on some Par 3 holes  
Longest drive on one Par 5 hole

SPONSORSHIP FORM

SPONSOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Sponsor \_\_\_\_\_  
Representative \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please select an option:

- ☐ Option 1 \$1000
- ☐ Option 2 \$600
- ☐ Option 3 \$300
- ☐ Option 4 \$100
- ☐ Other Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Option 1:** A sign will be placed on a hole with the sponsors name and or logo and will be identified with a 1" x 6" listing as a Sponsor in the LUCKY BAG for one year.

**Option 2:** A sign will be placed on a hole with the sponsors name and or logo and will be identified with a 1.5" x 3." listing as a Sponsor in the LUCKY BAG for one year.

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**Option 4:** A sign will be placed on a hole with sponsors name and logo and will be identified as sponsor in LUCKY BAG golf issue.

REGISTRATION FORM

DEADLINE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

TEAM CAPTAIN

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

TEAM PLAYERS

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual players are welcome and will be joined with others to create a foursome.

Sponsorship amount = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Entry fee \$95 X \_\_\_\_ players = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Total submitted = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail Entry Form and checks to:

Richmond Council NLUS  
P.O. Box 11201  
Richmond, VA 23230

**Sponsorships are tax-deductible**